

FISHING

	ALL DATES INCLUSIVE	Daily Creel	Length ¹
TROUT ²			
lakes, ponds, major rivers ^{3, 5, 6}	Jan.1 - Dec. 31	3	—
all other rivers and brooks ⁴	April 1 - Sept. 10	8	—
	Sept. 11 - March 31	3	—
LAKE TROUT			
	Jan.1 - Dec. 31		
Wachusett Reservoir	"	3	—
Quabbin	"	2	18"
SALMON (landlocked)	"	2	15"
SALMON (broodstock) ⁷	"	2	15"
AMERICAN SHAD	"	6	—
CHAIN PICKEREL	"	5	15"
BLACK BASS (Largemouth and Smallmouth, singly or combined):	"	5	12"
NORTHERN PIKE	"	1	28"
TIGER MUSKIE	"	1	28"
WALLEYE	"	5	14"
SMELT ⁸	Jan. 1 - Feb. 29	—	—
	May 16 - Dec. 31	—	—
ALL OTHER FRESHWATER SPECIES	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	—	—

STRIPED BASS and HERRING: For season, size and possession limits call the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520, or visit their website at www.mass.gov/dfwele/dmf.

POSSESSION OF: Sturgeon (all species), American Brook Lamprey, Bridle Shiner, Burbot, Eastern Silvery Minnow, Lake Chub, Longnose Sucker, and Northern Redbelly Dace IS ILLEGAL! If caught RELEASE IMMEDIATELY.

¹ **Minimum length** is measured as the straight line (not curved over the body) from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail. Forked tails may be squeezed together for the final measurement.

² **Trout** applies to Brook, Brown, Rainbow and Tiger (a cross between a female brown and a male brook trout). From April 1 to September 10, no more than eight trout as defined may be taken daily, and only three of those trout may be from lakes, ponds, or major rivers³. From Sept. 11 to Mar. 31, no more than three trout as defined, may be taken daily.

³ **Major Rivers:** Childs, Coonamessett, Deerfield, Farmington, Green (Colrain), Green (Great Barrington), Ipswich, Jones, Mashpee, Millers, Nissitissit, North (Colrain), North (West Branch), Parker, Quaboag, Quinapoxet, Quinebaug, Seven Mile, Santuit, Scorton Creek, Shawsheen, Squannacook, Stillwater (Sterling, Princeton), Swift (East Branch), Swift (Winsor Dam to Ware River, except as posted), Tully (East and West Branches), Ware, Ware (East Branch), Westfield (All Branches).

⁴ **Mainstem Housatonic River** from the confluence of the East and West Branches to the MA/CT line, exclusive of catch and release areas, limit one trout, minimum length 20 inches.

⁵ **Special brown trout water:** South Pond (Quacumquasit), Brookfield. Total daily creel is 3 trout but **only 1** may be a brown trout and it must be at least 15".

⁶ **Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs:** Opening and closing dates are set by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Visit www.mass.gov/dcr/waterSupply or for Quabbin Reservoir call 413-323-7221, for Wachusett/Sudbury Reservoirs call 508-835-4816 or 978-365-3800. The use of lead fishing sinkers including, but not limited to, split shot, bullet weights, egg sinkers, slip sinkers, bell sinkers, pinch sinkers, rubber grip sinkers, bank sinkers, pyramid sinkers, or twist, strap or wraparound sinkers for the taking of fish in Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs is prohibited. Lead fishing sinkers **DO NOT** include other lead fishing-related items such as artificial lures, jigs, lead-core line, down-rigger weights, keel sinkers, torpedo casting and trolling sinkers, or weighted flies.

⁷ **The harvest of broodstock salmon** (Atlantic salmon) is lawful in all inland waters of Massachusetts except in: 1) the Connecticut River and all its tributaries, and 2) the Merrimack River downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA and all its tributaries downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA. The possession of an Atlantic salmon (including broodstock salmon) while fishing in the Connecticut River and all its tributaries and in the Merrimack River downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA and all its tributaries downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA is prohibited.

⁸ **Smelt** may be taken by hook and line only.